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**HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 58**  
**46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2003**

**INTRODUCED BY**  
Mary Helen Garcia

**A JOINT MEMORIAL**  
**REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT TO STUDY AND MAKE**  
**RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE DISPOSAL OF COMPUTERS.**

**WHEREAS, it is estimated that there will be more than**  
**three hundred fifteen million obsolete computers in the United**  
**States by 2004; and**

**WHEREAS, as consumers accelerate the pace with which they**  
**replace computers, landfill managers face a growing dilemma**  
**caused by both the volume of waste generated by computers and**  
**by the hazardous materials in computers that could be released**  
**into the environment once they are discarded; and**

**WHEREAS, New Mexico currently has no regulations**  
**concerning the disposal of computers; and**

**WHEREAS, New Mexico in 1990 enacted the Solid Waste Act in**  
**an admirable effort to manage the disposal of refuse and to**

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1 encourage recycling; and

2 WHEREAS, while there are no large scale computer recycling  
3 operations in New Mexico, it is possible that some would be  
4 formed if a market were created; and

5 WHEREAS, it is always desirable to recycle refuse and  
6 especially so in the case of computers because of the costs and  
7 risks associated with disposing of computers;

8 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
9 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the department of environment be  
10 requested to study the costs and benefits of implementing a  
11 computer recycling program, whether under its own management or  
12 that of private enterprise; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the department of environment  
14 report its findings and recommendations, if any, to the  
15 appropriate interim committee of the legislature prior to  
16 December 1, 2003; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
18 transmitted to the secretary of environment.